

# On Banach Spaces with Bases

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We show that a Banach space  $X$  has a basis provided there are bounded linear finite rank operators  $R_n: X \rightarrow X$  such that  $\lim_n R_n x = x$  for all  $x \in X$ ,  $R_m R_n = R_{\min(m, n)}$  if  $m \neq n$ , and  $R_n - R_{n-1}$  factors uniformly through  $l_p^{m_n}$ 's for some  $p$ . As an application we obtain conditions on a subset  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $C_A = \text{closed span}\{z^k: k \in A\} \subset C(\mathbb{T})$  and  $L_A = \text{closed span}\{z^k: k \in A\} \subset L_1(\mathbb{T})$  have bases. © 1996 Academic Press, Inc.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $X$  be a given separable (real or complex) Banach space. We want to give a sufficient condition for  $X$  to have a basis, which can be easily verified in concrete situations where explicit constructions of bases are extremely complicated or even unknown.

Fix some  $p$  with  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ . We say that a sequence of linear operators  $U_n: X \rightarrow X$  factors uniformly through  $l_p^{m_n}$ 's with respect to  $\lambda$ , if there are suitable integers  $m_n$  and linear operators

$$T_n: X \rightarrow l_p^{m_n}, \quad S_n: l_p^{m_n} \rightarrow X$$

with

$$U_n = S_n T_n \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_n \|T_n\|, \sup_n \|S_n\| \leq \lambda \quad (1.1)$$

A sequence of bounded linear operators  $R_n: X \rightarrow X$  of finite rank is called commuting approximating sequence (c.a.s.) if  $\lim_n R_n x = x$  for all  $x \in X$  and

$$R_n R_m = R_{\min(n, m)} \quad \text{whenever} \quad n \neq m. \quad (1.2)$$

If there exists such a sequence  $\{R_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  then  $X$  is said to have the commuting bounded approximation property (CBAP). If (1.2) holds in addition even for all  $n, m$  with  $n = m$  then  $X$  is said to have a finite dimensional Schauder decomposition (FDD). It is known that there are Banach spaces with CBAP which do not have FDD, [2], [11].

At first we want to strengthen the main result of [7].

**THEOREM I.** *Let  $X$  have a c.a.s.  $\{R_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  such that  $R_n - R_{n-1}$  factors uniformly through  $l_p^m$ 's for some  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ . Then  $X$  has a basis.*

We postpone the proof of Theorem I to Section 3. Here we give some applications. At first some remarks. Notice that, conversely, every space  $X$  with basis admits a sequence  $R_n$  satisfying the assumptions of Theorem I (take the basis projections). In Theorem I we cannot drop the assumption (1.2) on  $R_n$ : Consider a Banach space  $X$  with linear bounded finite rank operators  $R_n: X \rightarrow X$  such that  $R_n \rightarrow id$  pointwise (i.e.  $X$  has the bounded approximation property-BAP). It follows from [9] that in this case we always find  $R_n$ 's with  $\dim(R_n - R_{n-1})X = 1$  in addition, that is,  $R_n - R_{n-1}$  factors uniformly through  $l_p^m$ 's. There are however examples of separable Banach spaces with BAP but without bases, [12].

Now we turn to  $\mathbf{T} = \{z \in \mathbf{C}: |z| = 1\}$ . Consider a subset  $A \subset \mathbf{Z}$  and put

$$C_A = C(\mathbf{T})\text{-closure of } \text{span}\{z^k: k \in A\}$$

$$L_A = L_1(\mathbf{T})\text{-closure of } \text{span}\{z^k: k \in A\}$$

It is easy to see that, for every  $A$ , these spaces have the CBAP. It is unknown however if they always have bases, [1], [12]. We want to give partial answers to this question.

Let  $d(\cdot, \cdot)$  be the Banach-Mazur distance between two Banach spaces. In the following consider  $a, b > 0$  and a sequence of integers  $n_k$  with

$$n_0 = 0 < n_1 < n_2 \cdots \text{ and } a \cdot n_k \leq n_{k+1} - n_k \leq b \cdot n_k \quad \text{for all } k \quad (1.3)$$

Put  $n_{-k} = -n_k$  for all  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  (As an example consider  $n_k = 2^k$ .)

For a function  $f: \mathbf{T} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  let  $\hat{f}(j)$  be its  $j$ 'th Fourier coefficient. Then we have

**THEOREM II.** *Put  $A_k = A \cap [n_k, n_{k+2}]$ ,  $k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$ . Assume that there is a number  $\lambda > 1$  and, for each  $k$ , there exists a finite-dimensional subspace  $X_k \subset C(\mathbf{T})$  with  $C_{A_k} \subset X_k$  and  $d(X_k, l_\infty^{\dim X_k}) \leq \lambda$  (resp.  $X_k \subset L_1(\mathbf{T})$  with  $L_{A_k} \subset X_k$  and  $d(X_k, l_1^{\dim X_k}) \leq \lambda$ ), satisfying the following: Whenever  $f \in X_k$  and  $n_k \leq j \leq n_{k+2}$  then  $\hat{f}(j) = 0$  or  $j \in A_k$ . Then  $C_A$  (resp.  $L_A$ ) has a basis.*

Theorem II and the following assertions will be proven in Section 4. By a coset of  $\mathbf{Z}$  we mean  $\emptyset$  or a set of the form  $m\mathbf{Z} + r$ , where  $m$  and  $r$  are integers.

COROLLARY. Assume that there are a positive integer  $q$  and cosets  $Z_{k,j}$  of  $\mathbf{Z}$ ,  $j=1, \dots, q$ , with

$$A \cap [n_k, n_{k+2}] = \bigcup_{j=1}^q (Z_{k,j} \cap [n_k, n_{k+2}]) \quad \text{for } k=0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

Then  $C_A$  and  $L_A$  have bases.

THEOREM III. Assume that there are a positive integer  $q$  and cosets  $Z_{k,j}$  of  $\mathbf{Z}$ ,  $j=1, \dots, q$ , such that, with  $\Omega_k = \bigcup_{j=1}^q Z_{k,j}$ ,

$$A \cap [n_k, n_{k+1}] = \Omega_k \cap [n_k, n_{k+1}],$$

$$\Omega_k \cap \Omega_{k+1} \cap [n_k, n_{k+1}] = \emptyset \quad \text{for all } k=0, 1, \dots,$$

and  $\Omega_{k-1} \cap \Omega_k \cap [n_k, n_{k+1}] = \emptyset$  for all  $k=-1, -2, \dots$ .

Then  $C_A$  and  $L_A$  have bases.

## 2. BANACH SPACES WITH A C.A.S. $\{R_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ SUCH THAT $R_n - R_{n-1}$ FACTORS UNIFORMLY THROUGH $l_p^{m_n}$

Fix a c.a.s.  $\{R_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  on  $X$  where  $R_n - R_{n-1}$  factors uniformly through  $l_p^{m_n}$ 's with respect to  $\lambda$ . Throughout this section we consider the linear operators  $T_n: X \rightarrow l_p^{m_n}$  and  $S_n: l_p^{m_n} \rightarrow X$  with

$$S_n T_n = R_n - R_{n-1} \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_n \|S_n\|, \sup_n \|T_n\| \leq \lambda. \quad (2.1)$$

(Put  $R_0=0$ .) For simplicity, take  $\lambda$  so large that  $\sup_n \|R_n\| \leq \lambda$ .

If  $\dim X = \infty$  we want to assume that

$$\text{either } p=2 \text{ or } \sup_n d(T_n X, l_2^{\dim T_n X}) = \infty. \quad (2.2)$$

This is no restriction. Indeed, if  $\sup_n d(T_n X, l_2^{\dim T_n X}) < \infty$  then we consider 2 instead of  $p$ ,  $T_n X$  instead of  $l_p^{m_n}$  and  $S_n|_{T_n X}$  instead of  $S_n$ . Furthermore we can assume that

$$S_n l_p^{m_n} = (R_n - R_{n-1}) X \quad \text{for all } n. \quad (2.3)$$

Indeed, otherwise define

$$\tilde{T}_n: X \rightarrow (l_p^{m_{n-1}} \oplus l_p^{m_n} \oplus l_p^{m_{n+1}})_{(p)} =: E_n$$

by  $\tilde{T}_n x = (T_{n-1} x, T_n x, T_{n+1} x)$ . Put  $\tilde{S}_n(a, b, c) = (R_n - R_{n-1})(S_{n-1} a + S_n b + S_{n+1} c)$ ,  $(a, b, c) \in E_n$ . Take  $\tilde{T}_n, \tilde{S}_n$  instead of  $T_n, S_n$ , resp.

Let  $\text{Fix } R_n = \{x: R_n x = x\}$  and define

$$Z = \left( \sum \oplus (R_n - R_{n-1}) X \right)_{(p)}, \quad (2.4)$$

$$Y = \text{closed span} \left\{ \{(R_n - R_{n-1})x\}_{n=1}^{\infty} : x \in \bigcup_n \text{Fix } R_n \right\}$$

(closure as subspace of  $Z$ )

and  $i: \bigcup_n \text{Fix } R_n \rightarrow Y$  by  $i(x) = \{(R_n - R_{n-1})x\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ ,  $x \in \bigcup_n \text{Fix } R_n$ . Note that  $i$  is injective. The definition of  $R_m$  can be extended to  $Y$  by putting

$$R_m \{(R_n - R_{n-1})x\}_{n=1}^{\infty} = \{(R_n - R_{n-1})R_m x\}_{n=1}^{\infty}. \quad (2.5)$$

We obtain  $i \circ R_m = R_m \circ i$ . (The fact that we use the same notation for the operators  $R_m$  on  $X$  and on  $Y$  will not create any confusion later on.)

LEMMA 2.1. (a)  $\sup_m d((R_m - R_{m-1})Y, (R_m - R_{m-1})X) < \infty$ .

(b) *There is a subspace  $Y \subset l_p$  and a projection  $Q: l_p \rightarrow \tilde{Y}$  such that  $d(Y, \tilde{Y}) < \infty$ .  $d(Y, \tilde{Y})$  and  $\|Q\|$  depend only on  $\lambda$ .*

(c) *If  $\dim Y = \infty$  then  $d(Y, l_p)$  is finite and depends only on  $\lambda$ .*

*Proof.* (a) We have

$$(R_m - R_{m-1})(R_n - R_{n-1}) = \begin{cases} R_{m-1}(id - R_{m-1}), & n = m-1 \\ (R_m - R_{m-1})^2, & n = m \\ R_m(id - R_m), & n = m+1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} & (R_m - R_{m-1})\{(R_n - R_{n-1})x\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \\ &= (0, \dots, 0, R_{m-1}(id - R_{m-1})x, (R_m - R_{m-1})^2 x, R_m(id - R_m)x, 0, 0, \dots) \end{aligned}$$

This implies

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{3} \|(R_m - R_{m-1})x\| &\leq \|(R_m - R_{m-1})\{(R_n - R_{n-1})x\}_{n=1}^{\infty}\| \\ &\leq 6\lambda \|(R_m - R_{m-1})x\| \end{aligned}$$

and hence (a).

(b) Put  $W = (\sum \oplus l_p^{m_n})_{(p)}$ ,  $m_n$  as in (2.1). Hence  $W \cong l_p$ . Define  $S: W \rightarrow Z$  by  $S\{w_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} = \{S_n w_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ . Clearly,  $S$  is well defined by (2.3)

and  $\|S\|$  depends only on  $\lambda$ . Moreover, for the elements  $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \in Z$  which are eventually zero put

$$T\{x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty = \left\{ T_n(R_{n+1} - R_{n-2}) \left( \sum_{k=1}^\infty x_k \right) \right\}_{n=1}^\infty.$$

Then  $T\{x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \in W$ . Indeed, by (1.2),

$$\|T\{x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty\| \leq \sum_{j=-2}^2 \left( \sum_n \|T_n(R_{n+1} - R_{n-2}) x_{n+j}\|^p \right)^{1/p} \leq 10\lambda^2 \|\{x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty\|.$$

So  $T$  can be extended to a bounded operator  $T: Z \rightarrow W$ . For  $\{w_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \in W$  we obtain, by (2.1), (1.2),

$$\begin{aligned} TSTS\{w_n\}_{n=1}^\infty &= T \left\{ S_n T_n(R_{n+1} - R_{n-2}) \left( \sum_k S_k w_k \right) \right\}_{n=1}^\infty \\ &= T \left\{ (R_n - R_{n-1}) \left( \sum_k S_k w_k \right) \right\}_{n=1}^\infty \\ &= \left\{ T_n(R_{n+1} - R_{n-2}) \left( \sum_k S_k w_k \right) \right\}_{n=1}^\infty. \end{aligned}$$

(We have  $\sum_n (R_n - R_{n-1}) = id$  on  $\bigcup_n \text{Fix } R_n$ .) This implies  $(TS)^2 = TS$ . Hence  $TS$  is a bounded projection on  $W \cong l_p$  and  $S|_{TSW}$  is an isomorphism between  $TSW$  and  $Y$ . Since  $\|TS\|$  and  $\|S\|$  depend only on  $\lambda$  we obtain (b).

(c) is a consequence of (b). ■

The preceding Lemma also includes the case that  $\dim X < \infty$ . Here there is an integer  $N$  with  $R_N = R_{N+1} = \dots = id$ .

**LEMMA 2.2.** *Let  $X$  be finite dimensional. Then there is an integer  $M$ , a subspace  $F \subset l_p^M$  and a projection  $Q: l_p^M \rightarrow F$  such that  $X \oplus F$  has a basis. The corresponding basis constant as well as  $\|Q\|$  depend only on  $\lambda$ .*

*Proof.* Consider  $Y$  of (2.4) which is now finite dimensional. Fix  $N$  such that  $R_{N+j} = id$ ,  $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Moreover, put  $R_{-j} = 0$ ,  $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Let  $G = (\underbrace{Y \oplus \dots \oplus Y}_{N\text{-times}})_{(p)}$  and define  $P_m: X \oplus G \rightarrow X \oplus G$  by

$$\begin{aligned} P_m(x, \{y_k\}_{k=1}^\infty) &= (R_m x + i^{-1}(R_m - R_{m-1}) y_m, (y_1, \dots, y_{m-1}, (id - R_m) y_m \\ &\quad + i(R_{m+1} - R_m) x, 0, \dots, 0)). \end{aligned}$$

Using (1.2), (2.4) we see that  $\|i(R_{m+1} - R_m) x\|$  is bounded by a constant which depends only on  $\lambda$  and  $\|x\|$ . Similarly, (1.2) and (2.5) yield that

$\|i^{-1}(R_m - R_{m-1})y_m\|$  is bounded by a constant which depends only on  $\lambda$  and  $\|y_m\|$  (see Lemma 2.1.(a)). Hence  $\|P_m\|$  is bounded by a constant which depends only on  $\lambda$ . We obtain, by definition of  $P_m$ ,  $P_k P_m = P_m$  if  $k > m$  and  $P_j P_m = P_j$  if  $j < m - 1$ . Moreover

$$\begin{aligned} P_m^2(x, \{y_k\}_{k=1}^\infty) &= (R_m^2 x + (R_m^2 - R_{m-1}) i^{-1} y_m + (R_m - R_m^2) i^{-1} y_m \\ &\quad + (R_m - R_m^2) x, (y_1, \dots, y_{m-1}, (id - R_m)^2 y_m \\ &\quad + (R_{m+1} - R_m - (R_m - R_m^2)) ix + (R_m - R_m^2) y_m \\ &\quad + (R_m - R_m^2) ix, 0, \dots, 0)) = P_m(x, \{y_k\}_{k=1}^\infty). \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $P_m$  is a projection and  $\{P_{2m}\}_{m=1}^\infty$  defines an FDD on  $X \oplus G$ . Moreover,  $P_{N+1} = P_{N+2} = \dots = id$ . We claim,  $P_{2m} - P_{2m-2}$  factors uniformly through  $l_p^k$ 's and the factorization constant depends only on  $\lambda$ . Indeed, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (P_{2m} - P_{2m-2})(x, \{y_k\}_{k=1}^\infty) &= ((R_{2m} - R_{2m-2})x + (R_{2m} - R_{2m-1}) i^{-1} y_{2m} \\ &\quad - (R_{2m-2} - R_{2m-3}) i^{-1} y_{2m-2}, \underbrace{(0, \dots, 0)}_{2m-3}, R_{2m-2} y_{2m-2} \\ &\quad - (R_{2m-1} - R_{2m-2}) ix, y_{2m-1}, (id - R_{2m}) y_{2m} \\ &\quad + (R_{2m+1} - R_{2m}) ix, 0, \dots, 0)). \end{aligned}$$

$Y$  is complemented in some  $l_p^k$  by Lemma 2.1. and  $R_{2m} - R_{2m-2} = (R_{2m} - R_{2m-1}) - (R_{2m-1} - R_{2m-2})$  factors uniformly through  $l_p^m$ 's too. Hence this proves the claim. Since  $P_{2m} - P_{2m-2}$  is a projection we conclude that there are an  $l_p^{k_m}$ -space and subspaces  $A_m, B_m$  with  $l_p^{k_m} = A_m \oplus B_m$ , such that  $(P_{2m} - P_{2m-2})(X \oplus G)$  is isomorphic to  $A_m$  and the isomorphism constant as well as the norm of the projection onto  $A_m$  along  $B_m$  depends only on  $\lambda$ . Finally, put  $F = G \oplus (\sum \oplus B_m)_{(p)}$ . Then  $X \oplus F$  has an FDD whose summands are  $l_p^k$ -spaces and  $F$  is complemented in some  $l_p^M$ . Hence  $X \oplus F$  has a basis. All constants involved depend only on  $\lambda$ . ■

LEMMA 2.3. Assume  $\sup_m \dim(R_m - R_{m-1})X = \infty$ . Then there is a subsequence  $\{\hat{R}_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  of  $\{R_m\}_{m=1}^\infty$  and a constant  $c > 0$  satisfying the following:

- (i)  $\hat{R}_n - \hat{R}_{n-1}$  factors uniformly through  $l_p^m$ 's, too.
- (ii) For each positive integer  $N$  there is  $n$ , a subspace  $E_N \subset (\hat{R}_n - \hat{R}_{n-1})X$  and a projection  $Q_N: X \rightarrow E_N$  such that  $d(E_N, l_p^N) \leq c$ ,  $\|Q_N\| \leq c$  and

$$\hat{R}_{n+m} Q_N = Q_N \hat{R}_{n+m} = Q_N, \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \hat{R}_j Q_N = Q_N \hat{R}_j = 0 \quad \text{if } j < n.$$

*Proof.* We can assume  $\sup_n \dim(\text{Fix } R_n \cap \ker R_{n-1}) = \infty$ . Otherwise take  $\{R_{3n}\}_{n=1}^\infty$  or  $\{R_{3n+1}\}_{n=1}^\infty$  or  $\{R_{3n+2}\}_{n=1}^\infty$  instead of  $\{R_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ . (Note,  $(R_n - R_{n-1})X \subset \text{Fix } R_{n+1} \cap \ker R_{n-2}$ ).

*The Case  $2 \leq p < \infty$ .* In view of (2.2), by [10] Theorem B, for each  $N$ , there are  $n$ , a 2-isomorph  $\tilde{E}_N \subset T_n(\text{Fix } R_n \cap \ker R_{n-1})$  of  $l_p^N$  and a projection  $\tilde{Q}_N: l_p^{m_n} \rightarrow \tilde{E}_N$  with  $\|\tilde{Q}_N\| \leq 2$ .  $S_n$  is an isomorphism on  $T_n(\text{Fix } R_n \cap \ker R_{n-1})$  (by (2.1)). Put  $E_N = S_n \tilde{E}_N$  and  $Q_N = S_n \tilde{Q}_N T_n(R_n - R_{n-1})$ .  $Q_N$  is a projection onto  $E_N \subset \text{Fix } R_n \cap \ker R_{n-1}$ . Hence

$$R_j Q_N = Q_N R_j = 0 \quad \text{if } j < n-1 \quad \text{and} \quad R_k Q_N = Q_N R_k = Q_N \quad \text{if } k > n.$$

By skipping  $n-1$ ,  $n$  and using induction on  $N$  we obtain a sequence  $\{\hat{R}_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$  as claimed.

*The Case  $1 < p \leq 2$ .* Here we consider  $\hat{X} = \overline{\bigcup R_n^* X^*} \subset X^*$ . Note that, as a consequence of (1.2),  $R_1^* X^* \subset R_2^* X^* \subset \dots$ . Since  $R_n^* - R_{n-1}^*$  factors uniformly through  $l_q^m$ 's where  $p^{-1} + q^{-1} = 1$  we proceed exactly as before to obtain a subsequence  $\{\hat{R}_n^*\}_{n=1}^\infty$  of  $\{R_n^*\}_{n=1}^\infty$ , subspaces  $E_N^* \subset (\hat{R}_n^* - \hat{R}_{n-1}^*) X^*$  and projections  $Q_N^* \rightarrow E_N^*$  with all the properties claimed in the assertion of Lemma 2.3 for  $Q_N^*$  instead of  $Q_N$ ,  $\hat{R}_n^*$  instead of  $\hat{R}_n$  and  $q$  instead of  $p$ . Regard  $X$  as subspace of  $X^{**}$ . Put  $Q_N = Q_{N|X}^*$  and  $E_N = Q_N X$ . We have

$$Q_N^{**}(\hat{R}_n - \hat{R}_{n-1})^{**} = (\hat{R}_n - \hat{R}_{n-1})^{**} Q_N^{**} = Q_N^{**}$$

and

$$(\hat{R}_n - \hat{R}_{n-1})^{**} X^{**} = (\hat{R}_n - \hat{R}_{n-1}) X.$$

Hence  $E_N \subset (\hat{R}_n - \hat{R}_{n-1}) X$ . Thus Lemma 2.3 follows in this case.

*The Case  $p = \infty$ .* Here take a free ultrafilter  $\mathcal{U}$  on the positive integers. Let  $U$  be the ultraproduct of  $(R_n - R_{n-1})X$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , and  $V$  the ultraproduct of  $l_\infty^{m_n}$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , with respect to  $\mathcal{U}$ . Define  $T: U \rightarrow V$  by

$$T\{(R_n - R_{n-1})x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty = \{T_n(R_n - R_{n-1})x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$$

and  $S: V \rightarrow U$  by  $S\{v_n\}_{n=1}^\infty = \{S_n v_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ .  $V$  is an  $L_1$ -predual space, hence  $V^{**}$  is a  $C(K)$ -space, [4].  $S^{**}$  is not weakly compact. Indeed, consider

$$\tilde{U} = \{\{T_n(R_n - R_{n-1})x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty : x_n \in \text{Fix } R_n \cap \ker R_{n-1}\} \subset \text{Fix } S^{**}.$$

It is easy to see that  $\tilde{U}$  as a subspace of  $U^{**}$  is infinite dimensional. Hence  $U^{**}$  contains a copy of  $c_0$ , [8]. Using local reflexivity, [6], we see that there is a constant  $c > 0$  such that  $U$  contains  $\tilde{E}_N$  with  $\sup_N d(\tilde{E}_N, l_\infty^N) \leq c$ .

Fix  $N$  and let  $e_1, \dots, e_N \in \tilde{E}_N$  correspond to the unit vector basis of  $l_\infty^N$ , say  $e_j = \{e_{j,n}\}_{n=1}^\infty \in U$  and  $\max |\lambda_j| \leq \|\sum_{j=1}^N \lambda_j e_j\| \leq c \max |\lambda_j|$  for all  $\lambda_j$ . Now fix  $\varepsilon$ ,  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ , and let  $\Omega$  be an  $\varepsilon/N$ -net of  $\{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : |\lambda| \leq 1\}$ . Using the definition of ultraproduct we find  $n$  such that

$$(1 - \varepsilon) \max |\lambda_j| \leq \left\| \sum_{j=1}^N \lambda_j e_{j,n} \right\| \leq (c + \varepsilon) \max |\lambda_j|$$

whenever  $(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N) \in \Omega^N$ . If  $\varepsilon$  is small enough this clearly implies that

$$E_n := \text{span}\{e_{j,n} : j = 1, \dots, N\} \subset (R_n - R_{n-1})X$$

is  $2c$ -isomorphic to  $l_\infty^N$ . Now, find a projection  $\tilde{Q}_N : X \rightarrow E_n$  with  $\|\tilde{Q}_N\| \leq 2c$  and put  $Q_N = \tilde{Q}_N(R_{n+1} - R_{n-2})$ . Hence  $R_j Q_N = Q_N R_j = 0$  for  $j < n-2$  and  $R_m Q_N = Q_N R_m = Q_N$  for  $m > n+1$ . Discard  $n-2, \dots, n+1$  and go over to a suitable subsequence of  $\{R_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  as before.

*The Case  $p=1$ .* This follows from the preceding case by duality in a similar fashion as the case  $1 < p \leq 2$  from the case  $2 \leq p < \infty$ . ■

As an immediate consequence of Lemma 2.3 we obtain

**COROLLARY 2.4.** *Assume  $\sup_m \dim(R_m - R_{m-1})X = \infty$ . Then there is a constant  $c > 0$  such that for each pair of positive integers  $(m, N)$  there is an integer  $n > m$ , a subspace  $E \subset (R_n - R_m)X$  and a projection  $Q : X \rightarrow E$  with  $\|Q\| \leq c$  and  $d(E, l_p^N) \leq c$ .*

**LEMMA 2.5.** *Assume  $\sup_m \dim(R_m - R_{m-1})X = \infty$ . Then there are integers  $0 \leq n_1 < n_2 < \dots$  and a c.a.s.  $\{P_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  of  $X$  such that  $P_n - P_{n-1}$  factors uniformly through  $l_p^m$ 's and the  $P_{n_k}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , are projections.*

*Proof.* We may assume that w.l.o.g.  $\{R_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  satisfies the assertions of Lemma 2.3., otherwise go over to a suitable subsequence  $\{\hat{R}_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ . Go back to  $Y$  of (2.4) and  $i : \cup \text{Fix } R_n \rightarrow Y$ . For each  $m$  find  $Y_m \subset Y$  with  $\sup_m d(Y_m, l_p^{\dim Y_m}) < \infty$  and

$$R_{m+1}Y \subset Y_m \tag{2.6}$$

in accordance with Lemma 2.1. We define  $n_0, n_1, n_2, \dots$  by induction. Start with  $n_0 = 0 = n_1$ ,  $P_0 = 0$ . Then assume that we have already  $n_0, \dots, n_m$  and  $P_{n_0}, \dots, P_{n_{m-1}}$  with

$$P_{n_j} R_n = P_{n_j} = R_n P_{n_j} \quad \text{for all } n \geq n_m - 1 \quad \text{and} \quad j < m. \tag{2.7}$$



Find, in view of Lemma 2.3.,  $n_{m+1} > n_m + 2$  such that  $X$  contains a subspace  $E \sim Y_{n_m}$  with a projection  $Q_m: X \rightarrow E$  satisfying

$$Q_m R_k = R_k Q_m = \begin{cases} Q_m, & k \geq n_{m+1} - 1 \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases} \quad (2.8)$$

In particular,  $E \subset \text{Fix } R_{n_{m+1}-1} \cap \ker R_{n_{m+1}-2}$ . Moreover, we can assume that  $\|Q_m\|$  and  $d(E, Y_{n_m})$  depend only on  $\lambda$ . Let  $V_m: E \rightarrow Y_{n_m}$  be an isomorphism with  $\|V_m\| \cdot \|V_m^{-1}\| = d(E, Y_{n_m})$ . (Remember,  $E$  is finite dimensional.) Put

$$\begin{aligned} P_{n_m} x &= R_{n_m} x + i^{-1}(R_{n_m} - R_{n_m-1}) V_m Q_m x \\ &\quad + V_m^{-1}(id - R_{n_m}) V_m Q_m x + V_m^{-1} i(R_{n_{m+1}} - R_{n_m}) x, \quad x \in X. \end{aligned} \quad (2.9)$$

The definition (2.9) makes sense if we take into account (2.6). Moreover  $\|P_{n_m}\|$  depends only on  $\lambda$ . (2.8) proves  $P_{n_m} R_n = R_n P_{n_m} = P_{n_m}$  for all  $n \geq n_{m+1} - 1$ . We have, in view of (2.6), (2.7), (2.8),

$$P_{n_j} R_{n_m} = P_{n_j} = R_{n_m} P_{n_j} \quad \text{and} \quad P_{n_j} Q_m = 0 = Q_m P_{n_j} \quad \text{for } j < m.$$

Hence we obtain  $P_{n_m} P_{n_j} = P_{n_j} = P_{n_j} R_{n_m-1} P_{n_m} = P_{n_j} P_{n_m}$  for  $j < m$ . Furthermore, an elementary calculation based on (2.8), together with (2.6), (2.7), shows that  $P_{n_m}^2 = P_{n_m}$ . (Note that  $Q_m X = E = V_m^{-1} Y_{n_m} \subset \ker R_{n_m} \cap \ker R_{n_{m+1}} \cap \ker R_{n_m-1}$  and  $V_m Q_m V_m^{-1} = id$  on  $Y_{n_m}$ .) Hence  $\{P_{n_m}\}_{m=1}^\infty$  defines an FDD on  $X$ . To complete the proof we fill in gaps. Take an integer  $j$  such that  $j \neq n_k - 1, n_k, n_k + 1$  for all  $k$ , say  $n_m + 1 < j < n_{m+1} - 1$ . Put  $P_j = R_j + Q_m$ . Then, with (2.7), (2.8), we conclude that  $P_h, h \neq n_k - 1, n_k + 1$  for all  $k$ , is a c.a.s. for  $X$ . (Note that (2.8) yields  $Q_m Q_{m+1} = 0 = Q_{m+1} Q_m$ .) It remains to show that the differences factor uniformly through  $l_p^m$ 's. This is clear for  $P_j - P_{j-1}$ , if  $n_m + 1 < j - 1 < j < n_{m+1} - 1$  for some  $m$ . If  $j = n_m + 2$  then (2.9.) yields

$$\begin{aligned} P_{n_m+2} - P_{n_m} &= Q_m + (R_{n_m+2} - R_{n_m+1}) \\ &\quad + (R_{n_m+1} - R_{n_m}) - i^{-1}(R_{n_m} - R_{n_m-1}) V_m Q_m \\ &\quad - V_m^{-1}(id - R_{n_m}) V_m Q_m - V_m^{-1} i(R_{n_{m+1}} - R_{n_m}). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $Q_m$  is a projection onto an  $l_p^k$ -space, in view of (2.1), all six preceding summands factor uniformly through  $l_p^k$ 's. Hence  $P_{n_m+2} - P_{n_m}$  factors uniformly through  $l_p^k$ 's. The proof is similar for  $P_{n_m} - P_{n_m-2}$ . ■

## 3. PROOF OF THEOREM I

The proof of Theorem I is split into two parts. At first we have

**PROPOSITION 3.1.** *Let  $\{R_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  be a c.a.s. for the separable Banach space  $X$  such that  $\sup_n \dim(R_n - R_{n-1}) X < \infty$ . Then  $X$  has a basis.*

*Proof.* By assumption, since  $R_n(id - R_n) X \subset (R_n - R_{n-1}) X$ , we find uniformly bounded projections  $Q_n: X \rightarrow R_n(id - R_n) X$  for all  $n$ . Put  $P_n = R_n + Q_n(R_{n+1} - R_n)$ . Clearly, in view of (1.2),  $P_n P_m = P_{\min(n, m)}$  if  $|n - m| \geq 2$ . Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} P_n^2 &= R_n^2 + R_n Q_n(R_{n+1} - R_n) + Q_n R_n(R_{n+1} - R_n) \\ &\quad + Q_n(R_{n+1} - R_n) Q_n(R_{n+1} - R_n) = P_n. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\{P_{2n}\}_{n=1}^\infty$  defines an FDD on  $X$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} P_{2n} - P_{2n-2} &= (R_{2n} - R_{2n-1}) + (R_{2n-1} - R_{2n-2}) \\ &\quad + Q_{2n}(R_{2n+1} - R_{2n}) - Q_{2n-2}(R_{2n-1} - R_{2n-2}) \end{aligned}$$

and  $Q_m(R_{m+1} - R_m) X \subset (R_m - R_{m-1}) X$  for all  $m$ . This shows that, by assumption,  $\sup_n \dim(P_{2n} - P_{2n-2}) X < \infty$ . Then, clearly,  $X$  has a basis. ■

For the second part we need another Lemma.

**LEMMA 3.2.** *Let  $X$  have a c.a.s.  $\{P_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  such that all  $P_n$  are projections. Consider some  $p$  with  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ . Assume that the following two conditions hold:*

(3.1) *There is a constant  $\lambda \geq 1$  and, for every pair of integers  $(m, n)$  with  $0 < m < n$ , there is a  $\lambda$ -complemented subspace  $F_{n, m}$  of some  $l_p^k$ -space such that  $((P_n - P_m) X \oplus F_{n, m})_{(p)}$  has a basis whose basis constant depends only on  $\lambda$ .*

(3.2) *For every pair  $(k, m)$  of positive integers there is an integer  $n > m$  such that  $(P_n - P_m) X$  contains an isometric copy of  $l_p^k$  which is 1-complemented in  $(P_n - P_m) X$ .*

*Then  $X$  has a basis.*

*Proof.* We use induction to find  $0 < n_1 < n_2 < \dots$  and subspaces  $F_{m-1}, G_m$  satisfying the following:  $(P_{n_m} - P_{n_{m-1}}) X = F_{m-1} \oplus G_m$ ,  $F_{m-1}$  is  $\lambda$ -complemented in an isometric copy of  $l_p^{k_{m-1}}$ , the norm of the projection onto  $F_{m-1}$  along  $G_m$  depends only on  $\lambda$  and  $G_{m-1} \oplus F_{m-1}$  has a basis whose basis constant depends only on  $\lambda$ . Start with  $n_1 = 1$ ,  $G_1 = P_1 X$ ,  $F_0 = \{0\}$ . Then assume that we have already  $F_{m-1}, G_m, n_m$ . Using (3.1)

find  $F$  which is  $\lambda$ -complemented in some  $l_p^k$  such that  $((P_{n_m} - P_{n_{m-1}})X \oplus F)_{(p)}$  has a basis whose basis constant depends only on  $\lambda$ . Hence  $(F_{m-1} \oplus F)_{(p)}$  is isometric to a  $\lambda$ -complemented subspace of a suitable  $l_p^{k_m}$ . Find, according to (3.2), an integer  $n_{m+1} > n_m$  and an isometric copy  $V$  of  $l_p^{k_m}$  which is 1-complemented in  $(P_{n_{m+1}} - P_{n_m})X$ . Let  $F_m \subset V$  correspond to the subspace of  $l_p^{k_m}$  which is isometric to  $(F_{m-1} \oplus F)_{(p)}$ . We have  $G_m \subset (P_{n_m} - P_{n_{m-1}})X$  and  $F_m \subset (P_{n_{m+1}} - P_{n_m})X$ . Hence

$$G_m \oplus F_m \cong G_m \oplus (F_{m-1} \oplus F)_{(p)} \sim ((P_{n_m} - P_{n_{m-1}})X \oplus F)_{(p)}$$

which shows that  $G_m \oplus F_m$  has a basis whose basis constant depends only on  $\lambda$ . By assumption on  $P_n$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} X &\sim P_{n_1}X \oplus (P_{n_2} - P_{n_1})X \oplus (P_{n_3} - P_{n_2})X \oplus \dots \\ &= G_1 \oplus F_1 \oplus G_2 \oplus F_2 \oplus G_3 \oplus \dots \end{aligned}$$

which shows that  $X$  has a basis. ■

**PROPOSITION 3.3.** *Let  $\{R_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  be a c.a.s. of  $X$  such that  $R_n - R_{n-1}$  factors uniformly through  $l_p^m$ 's for some  $p$  and  $\sup_n \dim(R_n - R_{n-1})X = \infty$ . Then  $X$  has a basis.*

*Proof.* Using Lemma 2.5. we find a c.a.s.  $\{P_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  of  $X$  and integers  $n_1 < n_2 < \dots$  such that  $P_n - P_{n-1}$  factors uniformly through  $l_p^m$ 's and  $P_{n_k}$ ,  $k=1, 2, \dots$ , are projections. By Lemma 2.2. applied to  $\tilde{X} := (P_{n_k} - P_{n_h})X$  and  $\{P_{j|\tilde{X}}\}_{j=1}^\infty$  there is a constant  $c > 0$  satisfying the following: For each pair  $(k_1, k_2)$  of integers with  $0 < k_1 < k_2$  there is a  $c$ -complemented subspace  $F \subset l_p^M$  for some  $M$  such that  $((P_{n_{k_2}} - P_{n_{k_1}})X \oplus F)_{(p)}$  has a basis with constant  $\leq c$ . With Corollary 2.4. we find an increasing sequence of integers  $m(k)$ , subspaces  $E_k \subset (P_{n_{m(k+1)}} - P_{n_{m(k)}})X$  and projections  $Q_k: X \rightarrow E_k$  with  $d(E_k, l_p^k) \leq c$  and  $\|Q_k\| \leq c$ . Renorm  $X$  as follows: Let  $L_k: E_k \rightarrow l_p^k$  be an isomorphism with  $\|x\| \leq \|L_k x\| \leq c\|x\|$  for  $x \in E_k$ . Put, for  $x \in X$ ,  $\|x\| = \max(\|x\|, \sup_k \|L_k Q_k x\|)$ . Then, after renorming,  $E_k \cong l_p^k$  and  $E_k$  is 1-complemented in  $X$ . Now, (3.1) and (3.2) are satisfied for  $\{P_{n_k}\}_{k=1}^\infty$ . Lemma 3.2. completes the proof of Proposition 3.3. ■

Of course, Propositions 3.1. and 3.3. prove Theorem I.

#### 4. $C_A$ - AND $L_A$ -SPACES

Let  $\|\cdot\|$  be the sup-norm or the  $L_1(\mathbf{T})$ -norm on  $\mathbf{T} = \{z: |z| = 1\}$ . We deal with the following classical operators (defined on  $L_p(\mathbf{T})$ ,  $p \in \{1, \infty\}$ )

$$\begin{aligned}
(\sigma_n f)(z) &= \sum_{k=-n}^n \frac{n-|k|}{n} \hat{f}(k) z^k, \\
(V_{m,n} f)(z) &= \frac{n}{n-m} (\sigma_n f)(z) - \frac{m}{n-m} (\sigma_m f)(z) \\
&= \sum_{k=-m}^m \hat{f}(k) z^k + \sum_{m < |k| \leq n} \frac{n-|k|}{n-m} \hat{f}(k) z^k, \\
(Rf)(z) &= \sum_{k \geq 0} \hat{f}(k) z^k \text{ (here } f \text{ is a trigonometric polynomial)}
\end{aligned} \tag{4.1}$$

It is well known, [3], that

$$\|\sigma_n\| = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \|V_{m,n}\| \leq \frac{n+m}{n-m} \quad \text{for all } n \quad \text{and} \quad m < n. \tag{4.2}$$

LEMMA 4.1. *There is a constant  $c > 0$  such that*

$$\|R(V_{n_2, n_3} - V_{n_1, n_2})\| \leq c \left( 1 + \log \left( \frac{n_3}{n_1} \right) \right) \| (V_{n_2, n_3} - V_{n_1, n_2}) \|$$

whenever  $1 \leq n_1 < n_2 < n_3$ .

*Proof.* Let  $p$  and  $q$  be integers such that  $2^p \leq n_1 < 2^{p+1}$  and  $2^{q-1} < n_3 \leq 2^q$ . Then  $q - p \leq c_1(1 + \log(n_3/n_1))$  for some constant  $c_1$ . We have, by (4.1),

$$(R(V_{2^j, 2^{j+1}} - V_{2^{j-1}, 2^j}) f)(z) = z^{2^j} \sigma_{2^j}(\bar{z}^{2^j} f(z)) - \frac{1}{2} z^{2^{j-1}} \sigma_{2^{j-1}}(\bar{z}^{2^{j-1}} f(z))$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
R(V_{n_2, n_3} - V_{n_1, n_2}) &= R(V_{2^q, 2^{q+1}} - V_{2^{p-1}, 2^p})(V_{n_2, n_3} - V_{n_1, n_2}) \\
&= \sum_{j=p}^q R(V_{2^j, 2^{j+1}} - V_{2^{j-1}, 2^j})(V_{n_2, n_3} - V_{n_1, n_2})
\end{aligned}$$

(Notice that the image of  $V_{n_2, n_3} - V_{n_1, n_2}$  is spanned by  $z^k$ ,  $n_1 < |k| < n_3$ , which are fix points for  $V_{2^q, 2^{q+1}} - V_{2^{p-1}, 2^p}$ .) Hence (4.2) yields

$$\|R(V_{n_2, n_3} - V_{n_1, n_2})\| \leq c \left( 1 + \log \left( \frac{n_3}{n_1} \right) \right) \| (V_{n_2, n_3} - V_{n_1, n_2}) \|. \quad \blacksquare$$

For a subset  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}$  let  $P_A$  be the projection with

$$P_A z^k = \begin{cases} z^k & k \in A \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases} \tag{4.3}$$

For special  $A$  this definition yields well defined bounded projections on  $C(\mathbf{T})$  as well as on  $L_1(\mathbf{T})$ .

LEMMA 4.2. *Let  $A = \bigcup_{k=1}^r (m_k \mathbf{Z} + q_k)$  for some integers  $m_k$  and  $q_k$  and fix  $p \in \{1, \infty\}$ .*

(a) *Then  $\|P_A\| \leq r 2^r$ .*

(b) *Let  $m, n$  be integers with  $0 < m < n$ , put  $\Omega = A \cap [m, n]$  and  $A = \text{span}\{z^k : k \in \Omega\}$ . Then there is a constant  $\lambda$ , independent of  $m$  and  $n$ , and a c.a.s.  $R_0, \dots, R_q$  of  $A$  such that  $R_0 = 0$ ,  $R_q = \text{id}$ ,  $R_j - R_{j-1}$  factor uniformly through  $l_p^m$ 's with respect to  $\lambda$  and  $\|R_j\| \leq \lambda$  for all  $j$ .*

*Proof.* (a) If  $m_k \neq 0$  we can assume  $m_k \geq 1$  and  $0 \leq q_k \leq m_k - 1$ . Then put

$$(Q_k f)(z) = \frac{1}{m_k} \sum_{j=0}^{m_k-1} \exp\left(-\frac{2\pi i}{m_k} j q_k\right) f\left(\exp\left(\frac{2\pi i}{m_k} j\right) z\right)$$

If  $m_k = 0$  put  $(Q_k f)(z) = \hat{f}(q_k) z^{q_k}$ . In any case,  $Q_k$  is contractive and  $Q_k = P_{m_k \mathbf{Z} + q_k}$ . We have

$$P_A = Q_1 + \sum_{h=1}^{r-1} \prod_{j=1}^h (\text{id} - Q_j) Q_{h+1}$$

which proves (a).

(b) We can assume that  $n - m \geq 4$  and that  $n - m$  is even (otherwise take  $n - 1$  instead of  $n$ ). Let  $q$  be the integer with  $2^q \leq (n - m)/2 < 2^{q+1}$  and put  $n_k = 2^k$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, q - 1$ ,  $n_q = (n - m)/2$ . Hence  $n_1 = 2 < n_2 < \dots < n_q$  and

$$\frac{n_{k+1} + n_k}{n_{k+1} - n_k} \leq 8 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{n_{k+1}}{n_{k-1}} \leq 8 \quad \text{for all } k. \quad (4.4)$$

Define  $R_j: A \rightarrow A$  by  $R_0 = 0$ ,  $R_q = \text{id}$  and, for  $1 \leq j \leq q - 1$ ,

$$R_{q-j} z^k = z^n (\text{id} - V_{n_j, n_{j+1}}) z^{m-n} (\text{id} - V_{n_j, n_{j+1}}) z^{k-m}$$

$$= \begin{cases} z^k, & m + n_{j+1} \leq k \leq n - n_{j+1} \\ \frac{k - m - n_j}{n_{j+1} - n_j} z^k, & m + n_j \leq k < m + n_{j+1} \\ \frac{n - n_j - k}{n_{j+1} - n_j} z^k, & n - n_{j+1} < k \leq n - n_j \\ 0, & m \leq k \leq m + n_j \quad \text{or} \quad n - n_j \leq k \leq n \end{cases}$$

(4.2) and (4.4) yield  $\|R_j\| \leq (1+8)^2$  for all  $j$ . By definition,  $\{R_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$  is a c.a.s. for  $A$ . For  $1 \leq j \leq q-1$  and  $g \in L_p(\mathbf{T})$  put

$$(\tilde{S}_j g)(z) = z^m R(V_{n_j, n_{j+1}} - V_{n_{j-1}, n_j}) \bar{z}^m g(z) \\ + z^n (id - R)(V_{n_j, n_{j+1}} - V_{n_{j-1}, n_j}) \bar{z}^n g(z)$$

By (4.4) and Lemma 4.1. the  $\tilde{S}_j$  are uniformly bounded. Define  $S_j: L_p(\mathbf{T}) \rightarrow A$  by  $S_j = P_A \tilde{S}_j$  and  $T_j: A \rightarrow L_p(\mathbf{T})$  by  $T_j = id$ . Then  $R_{q-j+1} - R_{q-j} = S_j T_j$  for  $1 < j < q$ . Hence  $R_{q-j+1} - R_{q-j}$  factors uniformly through  $L_p(\mathbf{T})$  and therefore also through suitable  $l_p^m$ 's. Furthermore,  $m := \dim(R_q - R_{q-1})A \leq 4$  since  $n_1 = 2, n_2 \leq 4$ . Hence  $d((R_q - R_{q-1})A, l_p^m) \leq 4$ . Finally, in view of  $n_q = (n-m)/2$ ,

$$R_1 z^k = (R_1 - R_0) z^k \\ = \begin{cases} \frac{k-m-n_{q-1}}{n_q-n_{q-1}} z^k, & m+n_{q-1} \leq k < (n+m)/2 \\ \frac{n-k-n_{q-1}}{n_q-n_{q-1}} z^k, & (n+m)/2 < k \leq n-n_{q-1} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Put  $T_q = id$  and define  $S_q: L_p(\mathbf{T}) \rightarrow A$  by

$$(S_q g)(z) = P_A z^{(n+m)/2} \sigma_{n_q-n_{q-1}} \bar{z}^{(n+m)/2} f(z).$$

We obtain  $\|S_q\| \leq \|P_A\|$  and  $S_q T_q = R_1 = R_1 - R_0$ . This concludes the proof. ■

*Proof of Theorem II.* We treat the  $C_A$ -case. The proof for the  $L_A$ -case is identical. Consider a sequence  $\{n_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$  satisfying (1.3). Find an increasing sequence of integers  $m_j$  such that

$$m_{3k} = n_k, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, \quad (4.5)$$

and there are constants  $c, d > 0$  with

$$cm_j \leq m_{j+1} - m_j \leq dm_j \quad \text{for all } j = 1, 2, \dots \quad (4.6)$$

Put  $m_{-j} = -m_j, j = 1, 2, \dots$ . Define  $R_j = V_{m_j, m_{j+1}}, j = 1, 2, \dots$ . By (4.2), (4.6),  $\{R_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$  is uniformly bounded on  $C_A$ . In view of (4.1),  $R_j|_{C_A}$  is a c.a.s. for  $C_A$ . We show that  $(R_{j+1} - R_j)|_{C_A}$  factors uniformly through  $l_\infty^m$ 's. Then Theorem II follows from Theorem I. By (4.6) and Lemma 4.1.,  $R(R_{j+1} - R_j)$

and  $(id - R)(R_{j+1} - R_j)$  are uniformly bounded. Moreover, by (4.5), for every  $j$ , there is  $k$  with  $[m_{j-1}, m_{j+3}] \subset [n_k, n_{k+2}]$ . Hence

$$R(R_{j+2} - R_{j-1})C_A \subset \text{span}\{z^h: h \in [n_k, n_{k+2}] \cap A\}.$$

By assumption there is a subspace  $Y_j \subset C(\mathbf{T})$  with

$$R(R_{j+2} - R_{j-1})C_A \subset Y_j, R(R_{j+1} - R_j)Y_j \subset C_A \quad \text{and} \quad d(Y_j, l_\infty^{\dim Y_j}) \leq \lambda.$$

Define  $T_j: C_A \rightarrow Y_j$  by  $T_j f = R(R_{j+2} - R_{j-1})f$  and  $S_j: Y_j \rightarrow C_A$  by  $S_j g = R(R_{j+1} - R_j)g$ . Then  $S_j T_j = R(R_{j+1} - R_j)$ . Hence  $R(R_{j+1} - R_j)$  factors uniformly through  $l_\infty^m$ 's. One shows similarly that  $(id - R)(R_{j+1} - R_j)$  factors uniformly through  $l_\infty^m$ 's (consider the negative integers). Thus  $R_{j+1} - R_j$  factors uniformly through  $l_\infty^m$ 's and the proof is completed. ■

*Proof of the Corollary.* Put  $\Omega_k = \bigcup_{j=1}^q Z_{k,j}$ . By Lemma 4.2.(a),  $C_{\Omega_k}$  and  $L_{\Omega_k}$  are uniformly complemented in  $C(\mathbf{T})$  and  $L_1(\mathbf{T})$ , resp. Hence, by [5], there is some  $\lambda > 1$ , independent of  $k$ , such that for any finite dimensional subspace  $E \subset C_{\Omega_k}$  (resp.  $E \subset L_{\Omega_k}$ ) there exists another finite dimensional subspace  $F \subset C_{\Omega_k}$  (resp.  $F \subset L_{\Omega_k}$ ) with  $E \subset F$  and  $d(F, l_\infty^{\dim F}) < \lambda$  (resp.  $d(F, l_1^{\dim F}) < \lambda$ ). Thus the corollary follows from Theorem II. ■

*Proof of Theorem III.* We prove the  $C_A$ -case. The proof of the  $L_A$ -case is identical. Consider a sequence  $\{n_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$  with (1.3) and let  $F_j: C_A \rightarrow C_A$  be the projection with

$$F_j z^k = \begin{cases} z^k, & |k| \leq n_j \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases}, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots$$

We claim,  $\{F_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$  is uniformly bounded. Indeed, put  $\Omega_j = \bigcup_{h=1}^q Z_{j,h}$  where  $A \cap [n_j, n_{j+1}] = \Omega_j \cap [n_j, n_{j+1}]$ . For  $f \in C_A$ , with (4.3), we have

$$\begin{aligned} (F_j f)(z) &= (V_{n_j, n_{j+1}} f)(z) - P_{\Omega_j} z^{n_j} (\sigma_{n_{j+1} - n_j} \bar{z}^{n_j} f)(z) \\ &\quad - P_{\Omega_{-j-1}} \bar{z}^{n_j} (\sigma_{n_{j+1} - n_j} z^{n_j} f)(z) \end{aligned}$$

This is a consequence of the assumption  $\Omega_j \cap \Omega_{j-1} = \emptyset = \Omega_{-j-1} \cap \Omega_{-j}$ , that is

$$P_{\Omega_j} z^{n_j} \sigma_{n_{j+1} - n_j} \bar{z}^{n_j} z^h = 0, \quad h \in [n_{j-1}, n_j] \cap A,$$

and

$$P_{\Omega_{-j-1}} \bar{z}^{n_j} \sigma_{n_{j+1} - n_j} z^{n_j} z^h = 0, \quad h \in [n_{j-1}, n_{-j+1}] \cap A.$$

Moreover, by (1.3),  $\|V_{n_j, n_{j+1}}\| \leq (b+2)/a$ . Hence with Lemma 4.2.(a),  $\{F_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$  is uniformly bounded. Lemma 4.2.(b) yields a c.a.s.  $R_{j,k}^+$ ,  $k=0, 1, \dots, u_j$ , for  $C_{\Omega_j \cap [n_j, n_{j+1}]}$  such that  $R_{j,0}^+ = 0$ ,  $R_{j,u_j}^+ = id$  and  $R_{j,k+1}^+ - R_{j,k}^+$  factors uniformly through  $l_\infty^m$ 's. Furthermore find a c.a.s.  $R_{j,k}^-$ ,  $k=0, 1, \dots, v_j$ , on  $C_{\Omega_{j-1} \cap [n_{j-1}, n_j]}$  with the corresponding properties. We may assume  $u_j = v_j$  (otherwise count  $R_{j,u_j}^+$  or  $R_{j,v_j}^-$  several times). Now define

$$R_{j,k} = F_j + R_{j,k}^+ R(F_{j+1} - F_j) + R_{j,k}^-(id - R)(F_{j+1} - F_j), \quad k=0, 1, \dots, u_j.$$

Consider the lexicographical order for the indices. We claim that  $\{R_{j,k}\}$  is uniformly bounded. Then  $\{R_{j,k}\}$  is a c.a.s. To this end we observe that, on  $C_A$

$$R(F_{j+1} - F_j) = P_{\Omega_j}(R(V_{n_{j+1}, n_{j+2}} - V_{n_j, n_{j+1}}) + R(V_{n_j, n_{j+1}} - V_{n_{j-1}, n_j}))$$

Since  $n_{j+2}/n_j, n_{j+1}/n_{j-1} \leq (b+1)^2$ , Lemma 4.2. implies that  $\{R(F_{j+1} - F_j)\}_{j=1}^\infty$  is uniformly bounded. Hence  $\{(id - R)(F_{j+1} - F_j)\}_{j=1}^\infty$  is uniformly bounded. This proves the claim. By definition of  $R_{j,k}$  we see that the differences factor uniformly through  $l_\infty^m$ 's. Now, Theorem I concludes the proof. ■

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